

## Message Text

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72 (15)

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 SCEM-02 SCI-06 CIEP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 /180 W

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P R 141045Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3676

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY UDBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0844

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y -- STATE REF NUMBR --

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, EC, LU

SUBJ: GOL VIEWS ON PROPOSED EC-ARAB CONFERENCE AND ON U.S.

OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO DUTCH

REF: A) PARIS 31740, B) STATE 234043

1. ON DECEMBER 13, MARCEL MART, MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORTATION, CONFIRMED TO US REPORTS IN LUXEMBOURG PRESS NOVEMBER 13 THAT GOL IS NOT OPPOSED TO FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR AN EC-ARAB ECONOMIC CONFERENCE (REF A). ACCORDING TO MART, THE GOL WILL SUPPORT AN EC INITIATIVE FOR AN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE WITH THE ARAB STATES AS LONG  
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AS THE EUROPEANS CAN AGREE THAT AN EC-ARAB AGREEMENT WILL

INCLUDE AN ARAB GUARANTEE ON OIL SUPPLIES TO THE EC,  
INCLUDING THE DUTCH.

2. MART WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE CONSIDERS A EUROPEAN-ARAB ECONOMIC AGREEMENT TO BE A NATURAL OUTGROWTH OF THE EVOLVING POSITION OF THE ARAB NATIONS IN THE WORLD ECONOMY. THE ARABS, HE BELIEVES, HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY PREFER GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS ON OIL AND OTHER ECONOMIC MATTERS RATHER THAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES AS IN THE PAST. WHILE SUCH GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS WOULD BE OF POLITICAL ADVANTAGE TO THE ARABS, THEY COULD ALSO BENEFIT THE EUROPEANS, SINCE, UNLIKE THE AMERICANS, THE EUROPEANS DO NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO DEVELOP ALTERNATE SOURCES OF ENERGY TO THE EXTENT THAT THE US DOES. ALTHOUGH ARAB-EC ECONOMIC TALKS WERE POSED BY THE FRENCH IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CURRENT ENERGY SHORTAGE, MART INDICATED THAT HE BELIEVED IT INEVITABLE IN THE MEDIUM AND LONG TERM THAT THE EC SHOULD TRY TO OBTAIN AN ARAB-EC ECONOMIC ACCORD.

3. MART MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GOL DOES NOT SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATE DEMARCHES WITH THE ARABS AND VIEWS SUCH BILATERAL APPROACHES AS DISRUPTIVE FOR THE COHESION OF THE COMMUNITY. ON THE OTHER HAND, MART ADMITTED THAT THE GOL HAD SUPPORTED BELGIAN EFFORTS TO GET THE ARABS TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN PETROLEUM BOUND FOR ROTTERDAM AND PETROLEUM TRANSITTING ROTTERDAM FOR ANTWERP (LUXEMBOURG DEPENDS ON ANTWERP FOR OVER 60 PERCENT OF ITS PETROLEUM) IN ORDER TO EXCLUDE ANTWERP FROM THE EMBARGO AGAINST THE DUTCH.

4. MART ALSO REACTED FAVORABLY TO THE US OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE DUTCH. WHILE MART PREFERS THAT THE EC SEIZE THE PETROLEUM CRISIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMON EC ACTION IN FOREIGN POLICY (I.E., AN EC-ARAB ECONOMIC AGREEMENT), HE THOUGHT THE US OFFER OF AID TO THE DUTCH BOTH MAGNANIMOUS AND AN EXCELLENT DIPLOMATIC MANEUVER. AT THE SAME TIME HE WONDERED WHETHER SUCH AID TO THE DUTCH WOULD BE SOLELY FOR THE DUTCH OR WOULD ALSO REPLACE SOME OF THE ARAB PETROLEUM THAT HERETOFORE HAD PASSED THROUGH ROTTERDAM REFINERIES TO BELGIUM AND

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LUXEMBOURG. FARKAS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, EMBARGOES, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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